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BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1954

R. E. ROBINSON, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.



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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.
(with qualifications)

Medical Officer of Health:

R. E. ROBINSON, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector
and Superintendent of Public
Cleansing:

H. WOODCOCK.

Certified Sanitary Inspector,
Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board.
Certified Meat and Food Inspector,
Royal Sanitary Institute.
Associate Member of the Institute of Public Cleansing.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector:

R. ISHERWOOD.

Certified Sanitary Inspector,
Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board.
Certified Meat and Food Inspector,
Royal Sanitary Institute.

Clerk:

MRS. K. THOMAS.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH & WATER COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR WM. ALDERSON, C.A.

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR E. DINSDALE.

Councillors:

H. ATKINSON.

J. BROUGHTON, J.P.

A. DEAN. (to 2/6/54).

Mrs. E. FIELDEN.

H. JESSOP. (to 18/5/54).

W. JONES.

J. E. RILEY.

J. STANWORTH, M.B.E.

D. H. J. STUTTARD.

K. Z. THROUP.

C. E. ANGUS.

E. BROXUP, J.P.

W. DENT.

A. HAIGHTON. (from 25/1/54).

Mrs. M. JOHNSON.

T. PYE. (from 18/6/54).

W. ROBERTS.

W. STARKIE.

F. SUTCLIFFE. (from 16/8/54).

J. E. WADE.

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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1954.

To the Chairman and Members of
Burnley Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting for your consideration the Annual Report on the standard of health in the Burnley Rural District, and the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1954.

The year under review was a very good year for the health of the people. The area was free from its customary quota of infectious fevers, and the infantile mortality rate was lower than that for the rest of the country as a whole.

There are, however, conditions which could be improved. There are still schools in the district where the sanitary accommodation consists of pail closets, and some have practically no washing facilities for the scholars. It follows, therefore, that lessons on hygiene are of theoretical value only, and consequently useless.

I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their unfailing support during the past year. To the staff of the Health Department, I am indebted for their hard work, loyalty and co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Madam, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. E. ROBINSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

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SECTION A.

VITAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Registrar-General's Estimate of population, mid-year 1954.....	16,510
Area of the District.....	39,841 acres
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1954, according to Rate Book.....	6,184
Rateable Value.....	£124,290
(as at 1st April, 1955).	
Sum represented by 1d. rate.....	£497
(actual for year ended 31st March, 1955).	

The chief occupations of the people in the district are cotton weaving, coal mining, and dairy farming.

There was practically no unemployment in the district during the year, and social conditions, on the whole, were fairly satisfactory.

Live Births.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate.....	173	96	77
Illegitimate.....	2	1	1

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated
population, mid-1954..... 12.3

Stillbirths.

Rate per 1,000 total(live and still) births..... 17

Deaths.

<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
250	125	125

Death rate per 1,000 estimated
population..... 12.9

Deaths from Puerperal causes.

Puerperal sepsis.....	0
Other maternal causes.....	0

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age.

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.....	17
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.....	0
All infants per 1,000 live births.....	17

Deaths from Cancer..... 33

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Other certified causes of death were as follows:

	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	1	2	3
Tuberculosis, other.....	0	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	4	2	6
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus.....	1	4	5
Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	2	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	2	0	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms...	9	8	17
Diabetes.....	1	0	1
Vascular lesions of the nervous system....	31	16	47
Coronary disease, angina.....	13	21	34
Hypertension with heart disease.....	8	1	9
Other heart disease.....	23	19	42
Other circulatory disease.....	3	7	10
Influenza.....	0	0	0
Pneumonia.....	4	3	7
Bronchitis.....	5	12	17
Other diseases of respiratory system.....	0	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	0	2	2
Syphilitic disease.....	0	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis.....	3	2	5
Hyperplasia of prostate.....	0	2	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases....	9	16	25
All other accidents.....	3	1	4
Suicide.....	3	2	5
Congenital malformations.....	0	1	1
Infective and parasitic diseases.....	0	1	1
	125	125	250.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

FOR THE AREA.

1. Laboratory Facilities.

The laboratory work for the department is carried out at the Central Pathological Laboratory, Victoria Hospital, Burnley.

2. Ambulance Facilities.

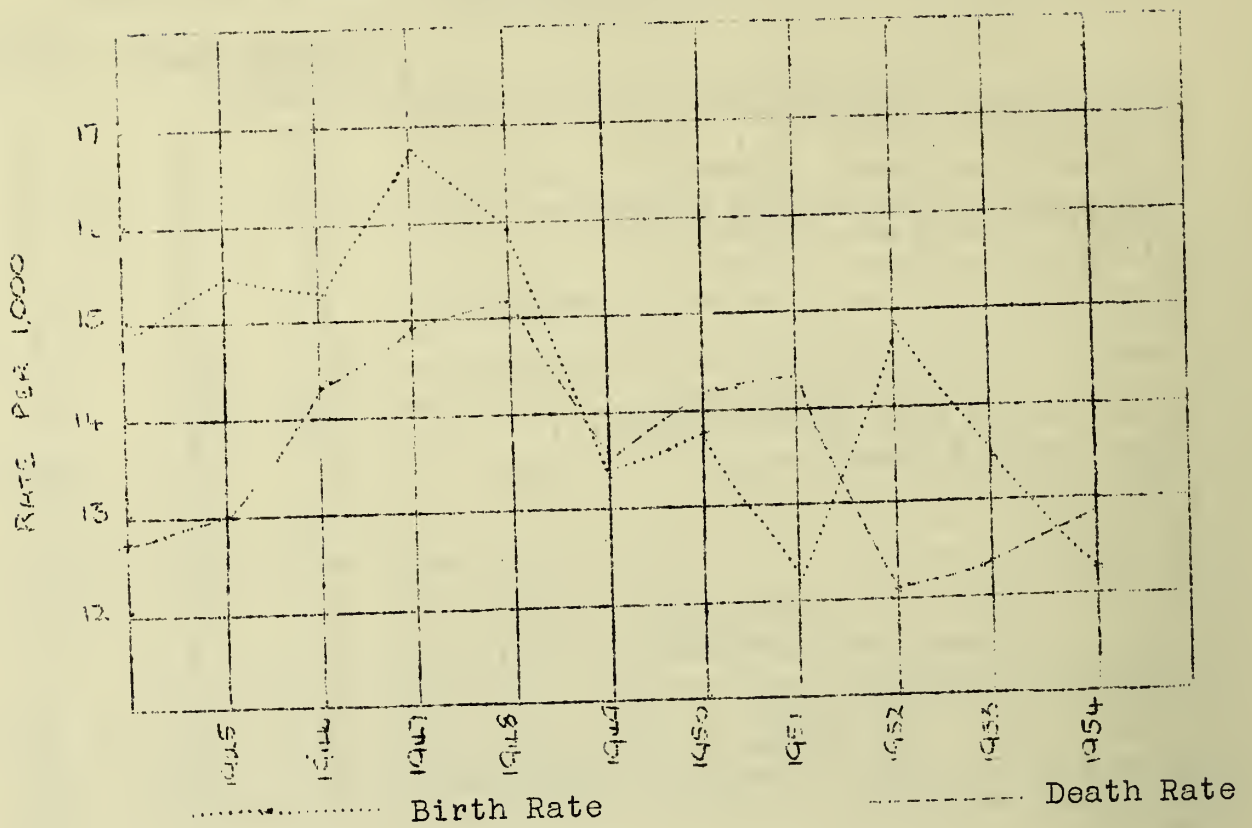
All the ambulance undertakings for this district are carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

3. Nursing Services.

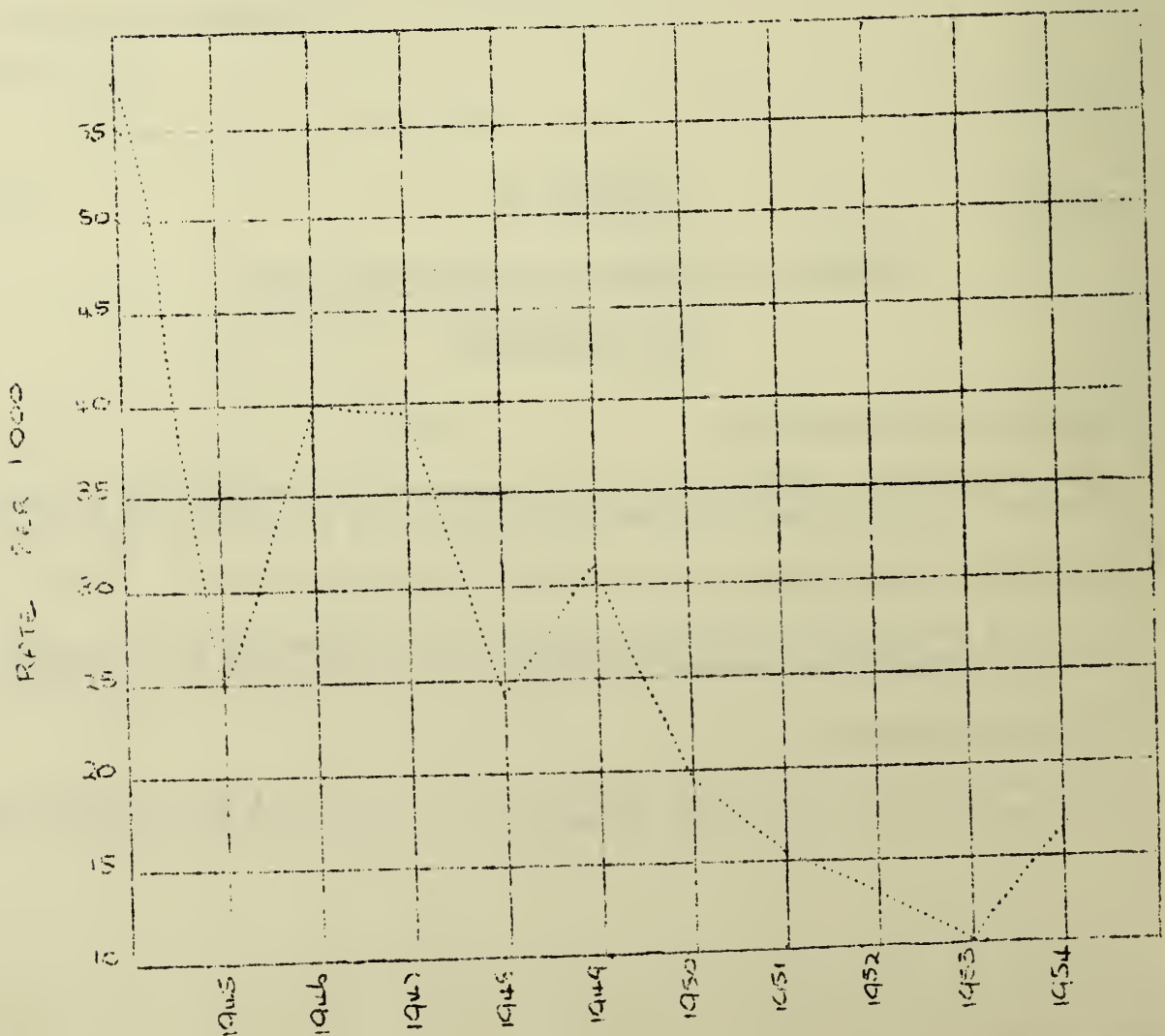
The nursing services provided for this district are carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

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GRAPH SHOWING BIRTH AND DEATH RATE FOR
PAST 10 YEARS.



GRAPH SHOWING INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE FOR
PAST 10 YEARS.



4. Immunisation and Vaccination Services, Home Helps, etc.

All these are under the control of the Lancashire County Council.

5. Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Child Welfare Centres:

Barrowford U. D. C.	.....	Congregational Sunday School, Hill Top, Barrowford.
Brierfield U. D. C.	.....	Town Hall Annexe, Brierfield.
Burnley R. D. C.	.....	Methodist Chapel, Briercliffe. Village Hall, Holme, Cliviger. Warehouse Lane, Foulridge. Council School, Hapton. Methodist Sunday School, Sabden. Methodist Sunday School, Worsthorne.
Colne M. B.	.....	Bank House, Albert Road, Colne.
Nelson M. B.	.....	9/11, Carr Road, Nelson.
Padiham U. D. C.	.....	West Bank House, Padiham.
Trawden U. D. C.	.....	St. Mary's Church Schoolroom, Trawden.

School Clinics:

Elizabeth Street, Burnley.
West Bank House, Padiham.
9/11, Carr Road, Nelson.
Bank House, Albert Road, Colne.
259, Manchester Road, Nelson.

Tuberculosis:

Cases of suspected tuberculosis are now seen at the Chest Clinic, Marsden Hospital, Marsden Road, Burnley.

Venereal Disease:

At the Out-Patient Department, Victoria Hospital, Burnley.

Institutional Accommodation for Maternity cases:

Christiana Hartley Hospital, Colne.
Fern Lea, Nelson.
Bank Hall, Burnley.

All these are under the control of the Regional Hospital Board.

SECTION C.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER
DISEASES.

Infectious Diseases.

The infectious diseases notified during the year were:

Scarlet Fever.....	23
Whooping Cough.....	11
Measles.....	26
Acute Pneumonia.....	2
Dysentery.....	1
Erysipelas.....	1
Food Poisoning.....	1

Tuberculosis.

	<u>Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
No. of primary notifications received from medical practitioners on Form A.....	11	3	14
Un-notified cases (obtained from Death Returns).....	-	1	1

Localisation of Disease.

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Pulmonary tuberculosis.....	9	2	11
Meninges.....	1	-	1
Glands of neck.....	1	1	2
	11	3	14

Occupations of Patients.

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Engineer.....	2	-	2
Clerk.....	1	-	1
Scholar.....	2	2	4
Packer.....	2	-	2
Winder.....	-	1	1
Farm Bailiff.....	1	-	1
Box-maker.....	1	-	1
Loom oiler.....	1	-	1
Manager (Mens' outfitters).....	1	-	1
	11	3	14

SCABIES ORDER, 1941.

There were no cases of scabies notified to this Authority during the year.

SECTION D.CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.1. Water Supply.

The area is supplied chiefly by water from the Council's own waterworks and from those of adjoining local authorities, but in addition there are also several privately owned water supplies.

The number of samples taken during the year was:

Bacteriological.

Public supplies: 24
Private supplies: 49

Chemical.

Public supplies: 0
Private supplies: 0

Details of the estimated number of houses with a piped supply of water are as follows:

	Piped Supplies.			Not Piped.
	No. of dwelling houses	From public water mains.	From private supplies	
Altham.....	227	212	15	-
Barley.....	84	24	53	7
Blacko.....	184	157	19	8
Briercliffe.....	886	867	9	10
Cliviger.....	572	466	94	12
Dunnockshaw.....	136	34	98	4
Foulridge.....	505	464	33	8
Goldshaw Booth.....	87	39	46	2
Habergham Eaves.....	261	229	30	2
Hapton.....	622	587	31	4
Higham.....	215	159	50	6
Ightenhill.....	59	59	-	-
Northtown.....	31	17	13	1
Old Laund Booth.....	261	214	47	-
Read.....	330	311	19	-
Reedley Hallows.....	290	240	49	1
Roughlee.....	124	54	69	1
Sabden.....	448	392	56	-
Simonstone.....	231	219	12	-
Worsthorne.....	630	624	6	-

The department has been actively engaged during the year checking up on the purity of water supplies.

In all, 73 samples of water, from public and private supplies, were taken and submitted to the Central Pathological Laboratory, at Burnley, for analysis.

The results of these samples were as follows:

Public Supplies.

24 samples taken.

Number reported excellent.....	16
Number reported good.....	3
Number reported suspicious.....	3
Number reported unsatisfactory.....	2

Private Supplies.

49 samples taken.

Number reported excellent.....	23
Number reported good.....	4
Number reported suspicious.....	4
Number reported unsatisfactory.....	18

In cases where water is reported unsatisfactory the users are requested to boil all water to be used for drinking purposes. Unsatisfactory sources are investigated and where possible advice is given to owners so that improvements may be effected.

Where there are several springs running into one private supply, samples are taken from each spring and where one or more is found to be unsatisfactory, then such spring can be disconnected, leaving only those where pure water is delivered.

In several cases it has been found that water issuing from a spring is piped for varying distances in field drain pipes to the tank which is used for storage, and an improvement has been carried out in some cases by the construction of a brick tank properly covered to receive the water from the spring, the water then being conveyed to the storage tank by properly jointed earthenware pipes.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The department has again been concentrating on the improvement of obsolete septic tanks and filters. When any of these tanks are emptied an inspection is made, and where improvements or repairs are necessary the appropriate notice is served on the owner.

The Cliviger sewerage scheme was completed by January, 1954, and there are now only thirty pails existing which are within 100 ft. of the sewer. Efforts are now being to persuade property owners to convert their pails to fresh water closets.

Approximate number of houses connected to sewer..... 348.

In these cases the pails mentioned previously are outstanding, but the sink drainage from these thirty houses has been connected to the sewer.

The chief source of river pollution is still from unserved villages as follows:

Barley, Briercliffe (Lane Bottom area), Dunnockshaw, Ightenhill, Newchurch-in-Pendle, and Roughlee.

Another source of pollution is caused by drainage from farms. Sink drainage is usually piped direct to the nearest stream, and liquid manure tanks are, in the majority of cases, fitted with overflow pipes, again which discharge into adjoining streams.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

In April, 1950, the Council decided to give financial assistance towards the cost of converting privies and pail closets to fresh water closets. A grant of £8, or half the cost of the conversion, whichever is the lesser, is now paid towards the cost of these improvements.

The following table shows the number of conversions carried out during the year:

Privy closets to fresh water closets.....	0
Privy closets to waste water closets.....	0
Privy closets to pail closets.....	0
Pail closets to fresh water closets.....	9
Pail closets to waste water closets.....	0
Trough closets to fresh water closets.....	0
Waste water closets to fresh water closets.....	34

The approximate number of the different types of sanitary conveniences in the district are as follows:

Fresh water closets.....	2961
Waste water closets.....	2465
Pail closets (including tank closets).....	904
Trough closets.....	16

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The department has experienced greater difficulty this past year in maintaining a regular weekly collection. When you considered owning your own vehicles in 1950, a report was made to you stating the number of vehicles and men it was thought sufficient to carry out a regular weekly service. This number was given to you as follows

One cesspool emptier staffed by one driver and one loader.
Two refuse vehicles each staffed by one driver and four loaders.
A smaller vehicle to scavenge the more scattered properties to be staffed by one driver and one loader.

This number of men and vehicles was employed last year, but since the purchase of vehicles there have been an additional 263 houses built in the district, which are all receiving a dustbin service. These houses are either detached or semi-detached, and the work is increasingly difficult for the men because of the long carries.

The first two vehicles which you purchased are now four years old and often lose time owing to breakdowns. In addition, whenever there have been any staff depletions, it has been necessary to transfer workmen from the refuse disposal side in order to maintain collections. This has resulted in tips being left in an unsatisfactory manner, and we then run into another difficulty in that tips not receiving proper attention are soft, and vehicles tend to sink down to the axle and have to be towed out by another vehicle. This again all adds to delays in the service.

Vehicles and Labour.

One 18/20 cu. yd. Shelvoke and Drewry Fore and Aft Tipper, staffed by a driver and four loaders.

One 10 cu. yd Shelvoke and Drewry Side Loader staffed by a driver and four loaders.

The 5 cu. yd. Bedford Side and Rear Loader was found to be most unsatisfactory for the job, owing to age and defects which resulted in many breakdowns. You decided therefore to purchase in its place a Ford 7 cu. yd. Side Loading Refuse Vehicle powered by a diesel engine. This has given excellent results and a continued saving has been made in fuel. The Bedford waggon, running eight miles for each gallon of petrol used, compared with the Ford running sixteen miles for each gallon of diesel oil used. This vehicle was staffed by a driver and one loader in place of a driver and three loaders which had been used previously. The best that this vehicle seems to do is the round in nine days, but after being stopped for the holiday week it is very hard to pick up lost time, as this can only be done by increasing the speed of the vehicle, which is not advisable.

Nightsoil Collection and Emptying of Cesspools.

One 800 gallon Shelvoke and Drewry Cesspool Emptier.

This vehicle is staffed by a driver and one loader only, and collection was maintained generally on a weekly basis. The vehicle is worked for fifty-two weeks in the year as the driver and loader can be replaced at holiday times.

Approximately 700 pails are emptied weekly, and cesspools and privies are emptied at regular periods. Septic tanks have usually to be emptied outside the regular working hours.

Refuse Disposal.

Household refuse is deposited on tips in the parishes of Foulridge, Reedley, Hapton, Dunnockshaw, and Briercliffe.

The tips at Reedley and Hapton are practically full, and it is urgent that new sites should be found to replace these. Also there is need for a tipping site for Sabden, one for Read and Simonstone, and one for Worsthorne and Cliviger. Since the waggon returns to the depot with practically a full load of waste paper, it is most important that he should be able to deposit his last load of refuse very close to the village in which he is working.

SALVAGE.

There was much greater demand for waste paper at prices which averaged around £6 per ton. The quantity of paper collected and sold was increased by 50% on the previous year, and many other salvage materials were sorted and sold as will be seen from the figures given below:

	T.	C.	Q.	lb.	£.	s.	d.
Waste Paper.....	96.	12.	2.	0.	610.	18.	2.
Cardboard.....	3.	14.	0.	0.	33.	6.	0.
Mixed rags.....	1.	17.	0.	7.	44.	9.	7.
Bagging.....		7.	3.	0.	2.	15.	6.
Scrap Metal.....	5.	18.	2.	0.	6.	1.	9.
Brass.....			3.	26.	3.	15.	0.
Copper.....			2.	10.	4.	2.	6.
Aluminium.....	2.	0.	0.		8.	8.	0.
Wool.....	1.	0.	3.		5.	15.	0.
Bottle Tops.....			9.			6.	0.
String.....	1.	0.	2.			9.	6.
Carpet.....	4.	0.	0.			16.	0.
Hair.....			15.			5.	0.
c/fwd.	108.	19.	2.	16.	721.	8.	0.

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	T.	C.	Q.	lb.	£.	s.	d.
B/fwd.	108.	19.	2.	16.	721.	8.	0.
Mixed Brass and Copper....				12.		12.	0.
Lead.....				26.		19.	6.
Batteries.....						19.	0.
(1 large, 2 small)							
	108.	19.	3.	26.	723.	18.	6.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

There is still a great need for sanitary conveniences in the district as only two parishes, Foulridge and Briercliffe, are so provided. The greatest need is in the parishes which attract numerous visitors at week-ends and public holidays.

DISINFECTION.

During the year 19 houses were visited for the purpose of disinfection. Formaldehyde was used in all cases except in the case of tuberculosis, where a 5% Izal solution is used.

Bedding is removed for steam disinfection, where necessary, to Burnley County Borough Cleansing Station.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The laundry which was reported to you last year as having had considerable improvement carried out to prevent smoke emission, has continued to give no trouble during the past year. The colliery spoilbank which has been burning for some years has given very little trouble. The clay and stone which has been tipped at an average depth of ten or twelve feet over the whole area has been very effective in keeping down the nuisance.

The gas manufacturing plant which had been reported previously still causes considerable nuisance to householders when the wind blows from the East. This affects to a large extent the people living in the Urban District of Clayton-le-Moors. The renewal of the boilers was completed, but it still seems that the boilers have to be driven far too hard, with the result of a considerable amount of smoke emission. The management intends to fix a more efficient system of heat exchange whereby the incoming cold water is heated to a high degree by the waste gases passing along the base of the chimney. This will result in the boilers not having to be driven quite so hard.

There are considerable by-products from incomplete combustion when coal is charged into the gas-making furnaces. Whilst the ovens are open at the top and the coal is being discharged, there is considerable smoke and grit given off from the open doors of the ovens. It is intended to fix a chimney over the coal-discharging apparatus which will have provision for the entry of air at the bottom, and it is hoped to cause the smoke and grit to burn at the top of the chimney, and thus reduce the nuisance.

Another cause of nuisance at these works is the quenching of the red hot coke when it has been discharged from the ovens. The coke is carried along in a container and placed under a quenching plant, which discharges water over the red hot coke. This is done out in the open, and each time a charge of coke is quenched there is a considerable emission of smoke and grit. There has been as yet no suggestion of any remedy for this nuisance.

RODENT CONTROL.

Rodent control in private dwellings and business premises was carried out during the year. A free service was given in the case of private dwellings, but a charge is made for the treatment of business premises.

Rat destruction in the sewers has been carried out and below are given details of infestations in sewer lengths treated up to the end of December, 1954.

Treatment, April, 1954.

	<u>Manholes Baited</u>	<u>Manholes Infested.</u>	<u>%</u>
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	50	8	16
Briercliffe.....	57	4	7
Cliviger.....	107	5	5
Foulridge.....	51	9	17
Hapton, & Altham.....	82	21	25
Higham.....	60	6	10
Reedley.....	19	4	21
Sabden.....	51	11	21
Worsthorne.....	84	22	26
Read & Simonstone.....	57	13	23

Treatment, October, 1954.

			<u>%</u>
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	18	0	0
Briercliffe.....	18	6	33
Foulridge.....	32	4	12
Hapton & Altham.....	59	7	12
Higham.....	15	3	20
Read & Simonstone.....	35	2	6
Reedley.....	10	7	70
Sabden.....	29	8	28
Worsthorne.....	36	12	33

Comparison is made with the figures obtained when these lengths of sewers were previously treated:

Treatment, October, 1953.

			<u>%</u>
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	3	0	0
Briercliffe.....	9	0	0
Cliviger.....	17	4	24
Foulridge.....	15	3	20
Hapton & Altham.....	13	0	0
Higham.....	13	2	15
Read & Simonstone.....	13	9	69
Reedley.....	8	0	0
Sabden.....	40	5	12
Worsthorne.....	69	13	19

Treatment, April, 1953.

			<u>%</u>
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	47	2	4
Briercliffe.....	57	5	9
Cliviger.....	57	10	18
Foulridge.....	45	1	2
Hapton & Altham.....	70	10	14
Higham.....	60	6	10
Read & Simonstone.....	53	6	11
Reedley.....	19	0	0
Sabden.....	40	11	27
Worsthorne.....	69	16	23

Treatment, September, 1952.

	<u>Manholes</u> <u>Baited</u>	<u>Manholes</u> <u>Infested.</u>	<u>%</u>
Altham, Read & Simonstone.....	18	2	11
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	15	2	13
Briercliffe.....	3	0	0
Foulridge.....	8	4	50
Hapton.....	7	1	14
Higham.....	11	0	0
Reedley.....	7	0	0
Sabden.....	34	10	29
Worsthorne.....	16	8	50

Treatment, April, 1952.

			<u>%</u>
Altham, Read & Simonstone.....	20	5	25
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	38	5	13
Briercliffe.....	7	0	0
Foulridge.....	43	1	2
Hapton.....	12	5	42
Higham.....	29	2	7
Reedley.....	7	0	0
Sabden.....	22	16	73
Worsthorne.....	49	2	4

Treatment, August, 1951.

			<u>%</u>
Altham, Read & Simonstone.....	54	20	37
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	73	11	15
Briercliffe.....	57	3	5
Foulridge.....	45	11	24
Hapton & Altham.....	69	5	7
Higham.....	61	7	11
Reedley.....	21	3	14
Sabden.....	40	6	15
Worsthorne.....	84	15	18

Treatment, January, 1951.

			<u>%</u>
Altham, Read & Simonstone.....	25	9	36
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	14	2	14
Briercliffe.....	3	0	0
Foulridge.....	26	4	15
Hapton & Altham.....	10	6	60
Reedley.....	4	0	0
Sabden.....	26	5	19
Worsthorne.....	5	1	20

Treatment, July, 1950.

			<u>%</u>
Altham Read, Simonstone.....	54	8	15
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	10	1	10
Briercliffe.....	9	2	22
Foulridge.....	45	19	42
Hapton, Altham.....	9	2	22
Higham.....	8	2	25
Reedley.....	3	0	0
Sabden.....	40	10	25
Worsthorne.....	10	2	20

Treatment, January, 1950.

	<u>Manholes</u> <u>Baited</u>	<u>Manholes</u> <u>Infested</u>	<u>%</u>
Altham, Read & Simonstone.....	52	25	48
Blacko, Fence, Wheatley Lane.....	74	13	18
Briercliffe.....	46	8	17
Foulridge.....	45	9	20
Hapton & Altham.....	61	13	21
Higham.....	62	13	21
Reedley.....	13	0	0
Worsthorne.....	84	13	16

No. 11 Workable Area for Rodent Control.

The No. 11 Workable Area was formed early in 1946. This area comprises Colne, Nelson, Trawden, Brierfield, Barrowford, Burnley, and Padiham districts, and Burnley Rural District. Each district is represented by a member of the Local Authority and the Sanitary Inspector. Half-yearly meetings are held in the respective districts when problems and progress are discussed.

OTHER VERMIN.

No houses were disinfested during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

The first table on Appendix A shows the number of inspections carried out during the year.

TENTS, VANS & SHEDS.

There are two sites on which vans and sheds are situated, in addition to a number of moveable dwellings on single sites in other parts of the district. One of these sites was licensed by the Council during the year. Arrangements were made for the owner to collect nightsoil from the vans. This is then transferred to the Council's cesspool emptier for disposal.

FACTORIES.

There are 98 factories in the district, chiefly cotton mills, and these are inspected regularly. Many of the factories have had modern sanitary accommodation installed in place of existing insanitary types.

There has been some difficulty in the parish of Altham where there are two factories with insufficient sanitary accommodation, and it has not been possible for the owner to install additional accommodation because of the lack of facilities for sewage disposal in that part of the district.

Factory inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

<u>Premises.</u>	<u>No. on register.</u>	<u>Inspections.</u>	<u>Notices.</u>
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authority.....	2	2	-
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (not included above)....	93	75	7
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	3	3	-

Cases in which defects were found.

<u>Particulars.</u>	<u>No. in which defects were found.</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred by H.M. Inspector.</u>
Sanitary conveniences:			
(a) Insufficient.....	2	-	2
(b) Unsuitable or defective.....	6	3	1
<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

SECTION E.HOUSING.

There were no houses erected by the Council during the year. Two houses were erected by another Local Authority, and eleven houses were erected by other bodies or persons during the year.

There are nineteen families on the waiting list for two-bedroomed houses and these people live in the rural district, and seven families are on the list for this type of house from people living outside the district. In the case of families waiting for three-bedroomed houses, seventeen of these reside in the district and three outside the district.

Inspection and Repair of Houses.

We do not get the number of reports of housing defects as we did pre-1939. During the past ten years many tenants have purchased the houses in which they live, and landlords who had a house empty took advantage of the increased value of houses and put them up for sale. Many of these houses which were in a poor state of repair when occupied as tenanted houses have now been given a new lease of life by the money spent by the owner-occupiers and in many cases by their own manual efforts.

Housing Act, 1939, Part II.

Under paragraph (5) in Appendix C I have given details of applications for grants to improve property and so prolong the life of houses in the district. Applications were made from owners of fourteen properties but none were granted.

Rent Increases and Certificates of Disrepair.
Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

This came into operation in July, 1954, and the intention was to allow owners of rented houses to increase the rents where their houses had been maintained in suitable condition. Where a landlord intended to increase the rent he had to serve a notice on the tenant setting out full details of money spent on the property and repairs carried out. Where a tenant believed that the house was not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation, he could apply to the Local Authority for a certificate of disrepair, for which he had to pay one shilling.

During the half of the year when this Act was in operation, three applications were received for certificates of disrepair, and two were granted. Although this gives no indication of the extent to which landlords have tried to repair their property and so qualify for rent increase, from information received it does not appear that the working of this part of the Act has been successful.

The number of houses inspected during the year was 195, and 580 re-inspections were made. 64 informal notices requiring repairs to be carried out were served during the year, and 24 informal notices were complied with. No formal notices were served under Sections 9, 10, and 16, of the Housing Act, 1936. Proceedings were taken under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936, in respect of five houses.

Particulars of housing inspections and repair work carried out are given in Appendices B and C.

SECTION F.INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD.(a) Milk Supply.

On the 30th September, 1949, many of the duties in connection with milk supplies were taken over by the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries. The inspection of dairy farms is now no longer the concern of the Local Authority but the Local Authority is responsible for the supervision of dairymen and milk distributors other than dairy farmers. The Local Authority is also responsible for the sampling of milk for biological tests.

No. of milk distributors in the district.....	18
No. of dairies in the district.....	13
Shops in the district other than dairies.....	4
Premises outside the district.....	2
No. of dealers' licences issued in respect of the distribution of tuberculin tested milk.....	18
No. of licences issued in respect of the distribution of sterilised milk.....	9
No. of licences issued in respect of the distribution of pasteurised milk.....	11

(b) Biological Examination of Milk Samples.Raw Milk.

No. of samples taken for tuberculosis tests.....	137
No. reported negative.....	136
No. reported positive.....	1
Percentage of positive samples.....	·73%
(By comparison, the positive samples 1953 were.....	3%).
No. of samples taken for methylene blue tests.....	130
No. reported satisfactory.....	101
No. reported unsatisfactory.....	29

Heat Treated Milk.

No. of samples for phosphatase tests.....	2
No. reported satisfactory.....	2
No. reported unsatisfactory.....	0

The positive sample of raw milk was obtained from a distributor who produced milk in the district.

No animals were seized by the Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

(c) Meat and Other Foods.

Under the Government war-time scheme of meat control, private slaughterhouses in the district were not used until the 1st July, 1954. All slaughtering for this area, before July, was carried out at Burnley and Colne Public Abattoirs, with the exception of cottagers' pigs.

In July the Council licensed four slaughterhouses, one each in the parishes of Dunnockshaw, Cliviger, Higham, and Sabden. The butchers' shops were inspected and generally found to be clean and well maintained.

Carcases inspected and condemned within the district from 1st July, 1954.

	<u>Cattle</u> <u>excluding</u> <u>cows</u>	<u>Cows.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep</u> <u>&</u> <u>Lambs.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
Number inspected.....	179	49	39	1552	403
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.....	0	0	1	1	0
Organ or part of carcase condemned.....	2	4	1	52	2
Percentage of number inspected affected.....	1·1%	8%	5·1%	3·4%	·5%
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.....	1	1	1	0	0
Organ or part of carcase condemned.....	22	11	0	0	7
Percentage of number inspected affected.....	18·4%	24·5%	2·6%	0%	1·7%

There were no cases of cysticercus bovis found in the slaughterhouses in the district during the period 1st July, 1954, to the 31st December, 1954.

Condemned Meat.

In the cases of meat condemned at slaughterhouses and butchers' shops, small amounts are buried at the tip, and in some cases are buried at the slaughterhouses. Large quantities of condemned meat are sent for manufacture into fertilizer.

Meat is coloured green at the time of condemnation.

Food & Drugs Act, 1938.

The County Council is the Food & Drugs Authority under the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, and deals with the adulteration of food.

During the year 93 samples were obtained, of these 73 were of milk and the 20 other comprised:-

3 Meat canned	1 Chocolate coated raisins
1 Semolina	1 Beef sausage
1 Custard powder	1 Fruit tarts
3 Self-raising flour	1 Cream sterilized
1 Table jelly	1 Almond oil
2 Christmas puddings	1 Extract of malt and cod liver oil
1 Milk condensed full cream sweetened	1 mincemeat
	1 Golden raising powder.

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following:-

<u>Sample.</u>	<u>Result of Analysis.</u>	<u>Action Taken.</u>
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 3.6% extraneous water.	Same vendor. Vendor cautioned and further samples obtained.
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 4% extraneous water.	
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 2.3% extraneous water.	
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 3.8% extraneous water.	
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 2% extraneous water.	
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 3.6% extraneous water.	
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 2.4% extraneous water.	
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 3.5% extraneous water.	

(d) Food Preparing Premises.

Regular visits were made to canteens and food shops which are generally kept in a satisfactory manner.

There are, however, one or two exceptions, and these are not easily improved. It does not seem possible to make a person handle food in a hygienic manner if he or she has not received adequate training.

The most effective remedy is for visits to be made daily and to set the food handler certain specific tasks to be carried out each day. In this way, improvements can be brought about, but it involves expense in travelling if one particular shop or canteen has to be visited for a long period.

Where the premises do not comply with the Food & Drugs Act, the necessary notices are served on the occupier.

There are quite a considerable number of cottagers who have catering licences, and these people are open only at holiday times and week-ends, and they are therefore difficult to supervise. To supervise such premises, it would be necessary to make regular visits on Sundays and public holidays.

Number of food premises by type of business at end of year.

General grocers and provision dealers.....	77
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc).....	11
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game, etc).....	0
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc).....	18
Bakers and/or confectioners.....	17
Fried fish shops.....	13
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice cream, etc.....	22
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments.....	45
Others.....	42

(e) Ice Cream.

The necessary attention was given to premises where ice cream is prepared and/or sold.

Three samples of ice cream were taken and submitted to the laboratory for analysis. All samples were reported to be satisfactory.

(f) Bakehouses.

There are seventeen bakehouses on the register, and routine inspections were carried out.

SCHOOLS.

During the year the twenty-three schools in the district were inspected, and the following information may be interest:

No. of schools with unsatisfactory yard surfaces..... 16

Sanitary Accommodation: No. of schools with:

Fresh water closets.....	14
Waste water closets.....	0
Trough closets.....	3
Pail closets.....	6

Refuse Disposal: No. of schools with:

Dustbins.....	23
Ashpits.....	0

Water Supply: No. of schools supplied from:

Public mains.....	21
Private supplies.....	2
No. of private supplies considered unsatisfactory.....	0
No. of schools where washing facilities are unsatisfactory	18

Drainage: No. of schools with drainage to:

Public sewers.....	17
Private treatment works.....	0

Facilities for handling meals at the schools are generally satisfactory. The main fault seems to be restricted space.

APPENDIX A.SANITARY INSPECTIONS MADE.General Sanitation.

Inspections under the Housing Acts.....	369
Inspections and visits in connection with I. D. cases.....	44
Disinfection of rooms.....	19
Inspections under Public Health Acts.....	211
Visits re water supplies.....	34
Visits to old people.....	4
Visits re caravans and moveable dwellings.....	32
Visits to factories re sanitary accommodation.....	31
Visits re refuse and salvage disposal.....	93
Visits re dustbins and pails, etc.....	95
Visits re septic tanks and filters.....	53
Interviews with property owners.....	197
Smoke observations.....	23
Old drains tested.....	92
Old drains inspected.....	127
Miscellaneous sanitary visits.....	64
Shops inspected under the Shops Act.....	293
Visits to works in progress.....	3
Visits to verminous premises.....	54
Visits re conversions.....	24
Slaughterhouses inspected and visits.....	14
Premises inspected for vermin.....	15
Visits to dirty houses.....	7
Visits re cesspools.....	3
Visits re milk licences.....	11
Visits re accumulations and deposits.....	6
Infected milk supplies.....	1
Visits re smoke.....	2

Meat & Food inspection and inspection of Food Premises and Vehicles.

Meat inspection.....	313
Food preparing premises inspected.....	17
Butchers' shops inspected.....	29
Grocers' shops inspected.....	23
Greengrocers' and fruiterers' shops inspected.....	11
Bakehouses inspected.....	15
Ice cream premises inspected.....	3
Fried fish shops inspected.....	7
Visits re infected milk supplies.....	4
Miscellaneous food visits.....	7
Dairies inspected.....	4
Restaurants inspected.....	1
Fishmongers inspected.....	1

Sampling.

Milk samples submitted for biological examination.....	137
Milk samples submitted for methylene blue examination.....	130
Water samples submitted for analysis.....	73

Miscellaneous.

Quarries inspected.....	1
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APPENDIX B.SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.Dwelling Houses.

Verminous houses cleansed.....	4
Rainwater gutters provided and repaired.....	3
Windows provided with new sash cords.....	5
Defective windows repaired or renewed.....	5
Handrails provided to staircases.....	1
New coal stores provided.....	1
Roofs repaired or new roofs provided.....	4
Door and door frames repaired.....	2
Houses provided with adequate water supply.....	1
Chimney stacks repaired or repointed.....	2

Bakehouses and Food Shops.

Ceilings repaired.....	1
Cleansed and limewashed on request.....	4
New floors constructed.....	3
Internal walls cement plastered.....	2
Additional light and ventilation provided.....	1

Waterclosets, dustbins, etc.

Pail closets converted to fresh water closets.....	9
Waste water closets converted to fresh water closets.....	34
Additional water closets provided.....	15

Drainage.

Choked drains cleansed.....	17
Drains repaired or reconstructed.....	3
Water supply pipes renewed.....	1
Drainage disposal installations cleansed or repaired.....	3
Drainage systems provided with means of access.....	1
Pollution of supplies abated.....	1
Service pipes repaired.....	1
Defective drains abolished.....	1

APPENDIX C.1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..... 195
- (b) No. of inspections made for the purpose..... 580
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932..... 0
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation..... 5
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation..... 64

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers..... 16

3. Action under statutory powers during the year:

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16, of the Housing Act, 1936:

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring repairs..... 0
2. Number of dwelling houses which, after service of formal notice, were rendered fit
 - (a) by owners..... 0
 - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners..... 1

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied..... 0
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices
 - (a) by owners..... 0
 - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners..... 0

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made..... 1
2. Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders..... 1
3. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings "not to occupy" were accepted by the Local Authority..... 4

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- (1) Number of dwelling houses, separate tenements, or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made..... 0
- (2) Number of Closing Orders which were determined, the premises having been rendered fit..... 0

(e) Proceedings under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- (1) Number of clearance areas represented..... 0
- (2) Number of houses concerned in (1)..... 0
- (3) Number of areas cleared..... 0
- (4) Number of houses concerned in (3)..... 0
- (5) Number of residents displaced in (3) and (4)..... 0
- (6) Number of houses built by local authority to re-house residents displaced..... 0

4. Housing Act, 1936. - Part IV. - Overcrowding.

- (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year..... 0
- (2) Number of families dwelling therein..... 0
- (3) Number of persons dwelling therein..... 0
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year..... 0
- (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year..... 0
- (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases..... 0

5. Housing Acts, 1949 - 54. Improvement Grants.

- (a) (1) Number of schemes submitted (a) by private individuals to local authority..... 9
- (b) by local authority to Ministry..... 0
- (2) Number of dwelling houses affected..... 14
- (3) (a) Number of schemes approved by Ministry..... 0
- (b) Number of dwelling houses or other buildings affected..... 0
- (c) Number of additional separate dwellings to be provided..... 0
- (4) Number of additional separate dwellings completed... 0
- (5) Any other action taken during the year..... None

